Docket No. 524941/0021

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Yasuto Sakai, et al. Group Art Unit: 2861

Application No.: 10/730,785 Examiner: Anh T.N. Vo

Filed: **December 8, 2003** Confirmation No.: **4849**

For: **LIQUID CARTRIDGE**

Date: August 21, 2006

REQUEST FOR CONFIRMATION OF CONSIDERATION OF REFERENCES

Mail Stop ISSUE FEE Commissioner For Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants respectfully request confirmation that the references and two Chinese Office Action documents cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed on May 1, 2006, have been considered.

The May 1, 2006, Information Disclosure Statement, including the cited references, appears in the Image File Wrapper for this application with a May 1, 2006, submission date. These papers were filed on May 1, 2006, utilizing the Patent and Trademark Office's Electronic Filing System.¹

Because Applicants have not received confirmation that the references cited in the May 1, 2006, Information Disclosure Statement were considered, Applicants respectfully request

As proof that these documents were received in the Patent and Trademark Office, a copy of the Acknowledgement Receipt sent to Applicants' undersigned attorney by the Patent and Trademark Office's Electronic Filing System is included at Exhibit A. This paper states "[t]his Acknowledgement Receipt evidences receipt on the noted date by the USPTO of the indicated documents, characterized by the applicant, and including pages counts, where applicable. It serves as evidence of receipt similar to a Post Card, as described in MPEP 503." Thus, pursuant to M.P.E.P. ¶ 503, this Acknowledgement Receipt constitutes *prima facie* proof that the Information Disclosure Statement and cited references were filed.

that an initialed copy of the PTO/SB/08a and 08b forms which are part of the Information Disclosure Statement be returned to the undersigned as confirmation that these references have been considered.

For the Examiner's convenience, copies of the PTO/SB/08a and b forms filed on May 1, 2006, are annexed as Exhibit B.

Favorable consideration and confirmation that this information was considered are respectfully requested.

In the event that there are any questions, or should additional information be required, please contact Applicants' attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

/David L. Schaeffer/

David L. Schaeffer Registration No. 32,716 Attorney for Applicants Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP 180 Maiden Lane New York, New York 10038 212-806-6677

EXHIBIT A

Acknowledgement Receipt

The USPTO has received your submission at 14:21:41 Eastern Time on 01-MAY-2006 by Deposit Account: 194709.

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You have also pre-authorized the following payments from your USPTO Deposit Account:

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| eFiled Application Information | |
|---|---|
| EFS ID | 1035060 |
| Application Number | 10730785 |
| Confirmation Number | 4849 |
| Title | LIQUID CARTRIDGE |
| First Named Inventor | Yasuto Sakai |
| Customer Number or Correspondence Address | Lawrence Rosenthal Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP 180 Maiden Lane New York NY 10038 US 2128066006 |
| Filed By | David Lewis Schaeffer |
| Attorney Docket Number | 524941/0021 |
| Filing Date | 08-DEC-2003 |
| Receipt Date | 01-MAY-2006 |
| Application Type | Utility |

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| Submitted Files | Page Count | Document Description | File Size | Warnings |
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| RequestForContinuedExamination.pdf | 1 | Request for Continued Examination (RCE) | 74724 bytes | ♦ PASS |
| InformationDisclosureStatement.pdf | 5 | Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Filed | 266968 bytes | △ WARNINGS |
| This is not an USPTO supplied IDS filla | ble form | ı | | |
| JP06286151A.pdf | 24 | Foreign Reference | 1882267 bytes | ◆ PASS |
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| JP2001341324A.pdf | 22 | Foreign Reference | 1608509 bytes | ♦ PASS |
| CN1365893A.pdf | 77 | Foreign Reference | 3766842 bytes | ◆ PASS |
| EP1199178A1.pdf | 67 | Foreign Reference | 1548370 bytes | ◆ PASS |
| OfficeActionInCN200310118233.pdf | 9 | Foreign Reference | 484002 bytes | ◆ PASS |

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New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111

If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.

National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371

If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.

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EXHIBIT B

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| | | | Application Number | 10/730,785 | | |
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| | TATEMENT BY AF | | First Named Inventor | Yasuto Sakai, et al. | | |
| | | | Art Unit | 2861 | | |
| | (Use as many sheets as ne | cessary) | Examiner Name | Anh T.N. Vo | | |
| Sheet | 1 | of 2 | Attorney Docket Number | 524941/0021 | | |
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| Examiner | Cite | Decreed Norther | U. S. PATENT De Publication Date | Name of Patentee or | Deges Columns Lines Where |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner Initials* | No.1 | Document Number Number-Kind Code ^{2 (7 known)} | MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
| | | ^{US-} 2002-109760-A1 | 8-15-2002 | Miyazawa, et al. | |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|--------------------------------|--|---|------------|--|--|--|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No.1 | Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ Number ⁴ "Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | ⊤ 6 | | | |
| | | JP-6-286151-A | 10-11-1994 | Brother Ind. Ltd. | w/ Engl. Abst. & Transl. | X | | | |
| | •••••• | JP-2000-343722-A | 12-12-2000 | Seiko Epson Corp. | w/ Engl. Abst. & Transl. | X | | | |
| | *************************************** | JP-2001-341324-A | 12-11-2001 | Seiko Epson Corp. | w/ Engl. Abst. & Transl. | X | | | |
| *************************************** | | CN-1365893-A | 8-28-2002 | Seiko Epson Corp. | | | | | |
| ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,, | 1 | EP-1 199 788-A | 4-24-2002 | Seiko Epson Corp. | Engl. Orig. | | | | |

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| Examiner | Date | |
| Signature | Considered | |

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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| | Substitute for form 1449B/PTO | | | | | Complete if Known | | | |
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| | | | | | | Application Number | 10/730,785 | | |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE | | | | | | Filing Date | December 8, 2003 | | |
| | STATEMENT BY APPLICANT | | | ICANT | First Named Inventor | Yasuto Sakai, et al. | | | |
| | | | | | | Art Unit | 2861 | | |
| (Use as many sheets as necessary) | | | y) | Examiner Name | Anh T.N. Vo | | | | |
| $\overline{\ }$ | Sheet | | 2 | of | 2 | Attorney Docket Number | 524941/0021 | | |

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|----------|--|--|--|--|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T² | | | | |
| | | Office Action in Chinese Patent Appln. 200310118233.3 (12-2-2005), with English translation | × | | | | |
| *************************************** | ,,,.,.,,,,,,, | Office Action in Japanese Patent Appln. 2003-204774 (9/1/2005), with English translation | × | | | | |
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¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.